

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	Box Sequence
H. UEMURA et al.)	Examiner:
Appln. No.: 09/856,320)	Washington, D.C.
Filed: May 21, 2001)	October 22, 2001
For: NOVEL SERINE PROTEASE)	Atty. Docket: UEMURA-4
BSSP6)	

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to the calculation of the filing fee which includes additional claims, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 3-19, 23 and 24 without prejudice.

Please replace claims 20-22, 25, 30, 32-37, and 41, with new amended claims 20-22, 25, 30, 32-37, and 41 to eliminate multiple dependencies as follows below.

20 (Once-amended). A vector comprising the nucleotide sequence according to claim 2.